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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/677,954	10/02/2000	Sunil K. Rao	RAO-007	3145

7590 10/07/2004
Stephen E Baldwin
751 Laurel St PMB 621
San Carlos, CA 94070

EXAMINER

SMITH, JEFFREY A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3625

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/677,954

Applicant(s)

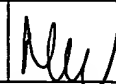
RAO ET AL.

Examiner

Jeffrey A. Smith

Art Unit

3625



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 25-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 28-47 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 25-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 October 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 was filed in this application after appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, but prior to a decision on the appeal. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the appeal has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114 and prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 09 April 2004 has been entered.

Claim Objections

The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

Misnumbered claims 33-55 have been renumbered 25-47. Applicant should refer to such newly ascribed nomenclature in

Art Unit: 3625

all future correspondence. The discussion of the claims below incorporates the newly ascribed nomenclature.

Election by Original Presentation

Newly submitted claims 28-47 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons:

The invention originally claimed was directed to:

a) a method for a real time personal purchasing transaction comprising the steps of formatting the response with a central server, and displaying the formatted response on a mobile device (claims 1-3); and

b) a real time personal purchasing transaction system comprising means for formatting a response with a central server, and means for displaying the formatted response on a mobile device (claims 4-6).

None of newly submitted claims 28-47 relies upon the formatting features recited in claims 1-6. Claims 28-47 recite inventions which would have been the subject of a restriction requirement had such claims been originally presented. The inventions of claims 1-6 and those of claims 28-47 recite different structures and functionalities which are considered to be patentably distinct from each other.

Art Unit: 3625

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 28-47 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for certain species of exemplified in the specification, does not reasonably provide enablement for a genus having elements of all such species. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

Art Unit: 3625

The Examiner notes that many elements and features are recited as list which invoke the inclusion of all elements in a single embodiment. Such single embodiment including all listed elements and features has not been enabled.

Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Particularly, "a camera cellular phone" is new matter.

Applicant is advised to seek out and remove any new matter that is present in the application.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point

Art Unit: 3625

out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 25 and 26 set forth a method in the preambles of these claims, yet bodies of the claims are not commensurate with the preambles in that they recite no method steps which are performed. Accordingly, the scope of these claims is ambiguous.

Claim 27, while reciting a system in the preamble of this claim, is dependent on claim 25 which sets forth a method in the preamble. Accordingly, the scope of claim 27 is ambiguous.

For examination purposes claims 25-27 have been interpreted as being directed to a system (i.e. a structural combination of elements). Applicant must make the appropriate corrections.

Claims 25-27 are replete with indefinite language which causes the scope of the claims to be unclear. For example, the claims recite many instances in which a list of features or elements are presented. The lists are presented in such a way that it cannot be determined if all or some or one feature(s) or element(s) are to be necessarily included in the composition of the system. Said another way, one of ordinary skill in the art cannot determine what may or may not be included from these lists in an effort to avoid infringement of these claims. The claims have been treated as best understood.

Art Unit: 3625

Claims 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The scope of claims 25-27 is unclear. Applicant appears to invoke structure pursuant to 35 USC 112, 6th paragraph. However, the precise structure which supports such invocation cannot be clearly identified in the specification. Applicant should identify the structure in the specification which is covered by each invocation of 35 USC 112, 6th paragraph.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Art Unit: 3625

Claims 25-27 (as best understood) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gershman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,356,905 B1).

Applicant's attention is directed to col. 27, beginning at line 46. Such embodiment discloses a wireless phone used for comparison shopping in a retail environment.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Maes et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,016,476) discloses a portable information and transaction processing system.

Burke et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,604,681 B1) discloses an evaluative shopping assistant.

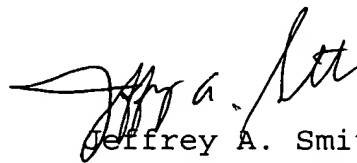
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey A. Smith whose telephone number is 703-308-3588. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn Coggins can be reached on 703-308-1344. The fax phone number for the

Art Unit: 3625

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jeffrey A. Smith
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3625

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